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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:)
WATANABE et al.) Art Unit: 1713
Application Number: 09/488,762) Examiner: Peter D. Mulcahy
Filed: January 21, 2000)

For: MEDICAL ADHESIVE TAPE OR SHEET, AND FIRST-AID ADHESIVE TAPE

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

January 30, 2002

Sir:

This Request for Reconsideration is in response to the Office Action dated October 4, 2001 for which the Examiner has set a three-month period for response. A Petition for a One-Month Extension of Time and the requisite fee are submitted herewith, thus making the response due on or before February 4, 2002.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and continued examination of this application are respectfully requested.

At page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as obvious over Kobylivker et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,002,064). The Examiner asserts that Kobylivker et al. shows a medical adhesive article incorporating a substrate comprised of the Applicants' thermoplastic resin and a silicic acid compound. The Examiner emphasizes a few portions of the cited reference and concludes that the claims are not novel.

At page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner further states that in the event that a person skilled in the art would not "immediately envisage" the claimed invention, the invention is